* Promoting blood safety and rational use of blood through proper licensing of blood banks and encouraging voluntary blood donations.
* Strengthening capacity for surveillance and diagnosis; and
* Extending training in clinical Management of HIV/AIDS cases.

Control of Population

1760. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total population of the country as on 1999;

(b) the steps being taken to control the population drastically;

(c) whether it is a fact that proper publicity and funds are lacking with the State Government to ensure family planning; and

(d) if so, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) The total population of the country on 1st October, 1999 is projected to be 990.41 million.

(b) The National Family Welfare Program has now been substantially re-organized and strengthened through the following steps;

(i) An integrated and holistic program of Reproductive and Child Health that include Maternal Health, Child Health and Contraception issues was launched in October, 1997;

(ii) Information, Education and Communication Program to create awareness about the benefits of small family;

(ii) Assistance to States/UTs to maintain certain family welfare infrastructure;

(iv) Assistance to Voluntary Organizations and NGOs for implementing family welfare program.

(c) Sufficient funds are being provided to the State Governments for IEC/publicity activities, Publicity campaign has been further

strengthened under Reproductive and Child Health Program through (i) Electronic Media; (ii) Zila Saksharata Samities to take care of publicity needs at district level; (iii) involvement of media units of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(d) Does not arise.

Financial Assistance Under NORAD to Typing Institutions

1761. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether WCL Kamgar Bahudesia Shikshan Sansthan, Pushpabala Typing and Shorthand Institute, Gitanagar, Zingabai Takali (Faras), Koradi Road, Nagpur have represented for financial assistance under NORAD scheme;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) by when the grant is likely to be released; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) As the information in the original proposal was incomplete, additional information was sought by the Department of Women & Child Development. This has been received in November, 1999. The case is presently under examination.

Miscellaneous Category of Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers with Selection Grade

1762. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fect that names of several teachers have not been included in the list of Miscellaneous category of the teacher with selection grade circulated about 2-3 months back by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, despite their seniority and full eligibility for the same;